Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 IO-10

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R 161100Z NOV 74 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 281 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY BEIRUT AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMEMBASSY MOSCOW USMISSION USUN

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 9261

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US UR

SUBJECT: ALI AMIN: MESSAGES TO SADAT FROM BREZHNEV AND

PRESIDENT FORD; GOE SMOOTHS PLO PATH

TO NEW YORK

AKHBAR'S EDITOR IN CHIEF ALI AMIN INCLUDES FOLLOWING ITEMS IN HIS WEEKLY FRIDAY COLUMN NOV 16:

A. BREZHNEV MESSAGE TO SADAT. SOVIET AMBASSADOR POLIAKOV HAS HANDED SADAT TWO MESSAGES FROM BREZHNEV, ONE OF WHICH IS "VERY LONG" AND DEALS WITH IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. LARGE SOVIET DEL OF ECONOMIC, TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL EXPERTS IS EXPECTED IN CAIRO TO PREPARE FOR SUMMIT IN MIDJANUARY. FONMIN FAHMY HAS ORDERED FORMATION OF COMMITTEE OF UNDERSECRETARIES FROM CONCERNED MINISTRIES TO PREPARE FOR BREZHNEV VISIT.

B. MESSAGE TO SADAT FROM PRESIDENT FORD. AMBASSADOR EILTS HAD CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING WITH FAHMY AND HANDED HIM URGENT MESSAGE FROM

PRESIDENT FORD TO SADAT.

C. USG-GOE RELATIONS. "A SENIOR AMERICAN" SAID MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN CAIRO AND WASHINGTON BEFORE ARAFAT'S DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK WERE "UNPARALLELED" (PRESUMABLY IN NUMBER). AMBASSADOR EILTS HANDLED THE CONTACTS. CAIRO EXERTED GREAT EFFORTS TO REMOVE OBSTACLES WHICH STOOD IN THE WAY, SO AS TO CREATE A SUITABLE ATMOSPHERE IN THE US, ENSURE TRAVEL OF ARAFAT AND PALESTINIAN DEL, AND COPE WITH ALL EVENTUALITIES. ARAFAT AND HIS COLLEAGUES OBTAINED ALL VISAS "THROUGH CAIRO."

USG HAD INSISTED MEMBERS OF DEL "ENTER" AIRPORT WITHOUT WEAPONS, BUT CAIRO OBJECTED TO THESE MEASURES. WASHINGTON RETRACTED ON CONDITION FOUR OF ARAFAT'S ARMED GUARDS ENTER WITH HIM. DEPARTURE OF PALESTINIAN DEL WAS PRECEDED BY DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN CAIRO AND USG AS WELL AS (CAIRO AND) A NUMBER OF MAJOR COUNTRIES.

(COMMENT: NEITHER AMBASSADOR NOR ANY EMBOFF HAS DISCUSSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLO WITH PRESS. WE ASSUME ALI AMIN'S SOURCE WAS MFA. AMBASSADOR'S CONTACTS WERE WITH MFA EXCLUSIVELY. EMBOFF DISCUSSED VISAS AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS WITH MFA AND ALI HASAN SALAMEH.)
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, LIBERATION

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Subject: ALI AMIN: MESSAGES TO SADAT FROM BREZHNEV AND PRESIDENT FORD; GOE SMOOTHS PLO PATH

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